



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 25, 1858.

The Homestead bill was the subject of considerable discussion in the Senate, last Saturday, without any final action. Those who favor the bill, argue that it would tend to ameliorate the condition of the poor, and would lessen vice and crime in our cities, by opening a means of honest labor in the West. The lands were not to be given away, but were granted in consideration of occupancy and cultivation, which constituted the fundamental title of all private property in a public domain. On the other hand, it was argued, against the bill, that its operation would be unequal and unjust, tending to induce emigration, from one part of the country to another, and thus working a transfer of political power. It was also argued that the measure, by granting a bounty to the private citizen, proceeded on a principle of Government patronage, which was as unsound in theory as in practice it would be disastrous to individual enterprise.

It will be seen that an arrival at New York, reports an exciting scene in the harbor of Sagua la Grande, Cuba. The commander of the British gun-boat Buzzard, attempted to compel Capt. Bartlett, of the American ship Clarendon, to exhibit his papers. The ship was first fired at with blank cartridges, and then the British officer, with one hundred men, proceeded to board her. Capt. Bartlett refused to allow any but the officer to come on board, and he was forced finally to leave without examining the ship's papers.

The bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. Hunter, giving authority to the President of the United States, at any time within twelve months from the passage of the act, to borrow on the credit of the United States, fifteen millions of dollars, authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury "to appoint in the office of the Register of the Treasury an additional clerk at \$1,600 per annum, and one of the same grade in the office of the Treasurer. It appropriates \$20,000 for expenses incident to the execution of the work, but no compensation is to be allowed to any officer whose salary is established by law."

The Paris correspondent of the New York Commercial, writing under date of the 6th inst., says:—"The long expected convention of the American Protestant Chapel in this city, took place on Sunday last, before a crowded audience of Americans, English, French, and German Protestants. The new pastor, Mr. Seely, preached the consecration sermon, and was assisted in the services by several clergymen of the Protestant faith from other churches of the city. The occasion was an exceedingly interesting one. Service will now take place regularly every Sunday morning and afternoon. A sale of 'sittings' takes place in a few days."

The Ohio contested election case occupied the House of Representatives, last Saturday, for several hours; but, before taking a vote, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill making appropriations for the preservation and repair of fortifications and other works of defence, and after several speeches on miscellaneous subjects, the committee rose, and the House adjourned, at nearly 7 o'clock.

A riot among the coal miners, near Pottsville, Pa., has been suppressed by the intervention of the military. The miners had a "strike," and commenced disturbances. The volunteer companies marched against them, arrested the ringleaders, and dispersed the mob. Quiet has been restored, and it is not likely the parties concerned, will raise another riot very soon.

The obstacles thrown in the way of allowing the Representatives from Minnesota, to take their seats in the House of Representatives, were overcome on Saturday; and the new state is now in full communion with her older sisters. We hope she may be always a loyal, patriotic, and union-loving member of the family.

Mr. H. J. Rogers, formerly of this place, has been elected Recorder of Hastings, Minnesota. Mr. Rogers was elected on the Citizen's ticket, but is a Democrat, and was voted for by the Democratic party. He is a deserving and estimable gentleman.

The Pension office has detected (and is now engaged in prosecuting those concerned), various frauds committed in Vermont, by forging papers for obtaining bounty land warrants, &c.

We understand, says the New York Post, that the Atlantic Telegraph Company have applied to the Secretary of the Navy for another ship, to assist them in laying their cable this summer.

Orders have been issued for Commanders Hartness and Ridgers to proceed to New York, to take command of the steamers Water Witch and Arctic, for service in the Gulf of Mexico.

The New York Tribune says that the schooner Cortez, recently seized by the British gun-boat Forward, was not an American vessel. She was sold in Havana some time ago, for the slave trade.

The schooner Col. Cork, left Detroit, for Liverpool, on the evening of the 19th inst. She takes out 70,000 West India staves, and 10,000 feet of clear black walnut.

Several destructive fires occurred at Buffalo, New York, on the 22d inst. Several thousand barrels of corn and wheat, in an Elevator office, were destroyed.

Among the visitors at Washington, is the gallant Commodore Paulding. He is stopping at Willard's Hotel.

Arthur A. Thompson has been appointed Postmaster at Warrenton Springs, vice Alexander Baker, resigned.

In the official order directing military honors to the memory of the late General Persifer F. Smith, Gen. Scott says:—"Gen. Smith, though he was commissioned in the regular army only at the beginning of the Mexican war, had with it, as a volunteer from Louisiana, previously made two campaigns against the Florida Indians, and in that capacity attracted, by his gallantry, zeal, and intelligence, the complimentary notice of all his commanders and associates. Even while at the Bar and on the Bench, strategy, tactics, and military administration mostly occupied his attention, so that when he became Colonel of the new rifle regiment May 27, 1846, he was already one of the best read soldiers in our service. Hence, in the following September, he took a distinguished part in the capture of Monterey, and in the following year yet higher renown at Contreras, Churubusco, Chapultepec, and the Belen Gate of the Mexican capital.

The British Minister and his lady returned to Washington on Friday, from a visit to Mr. W. C. Rives, in Virginia. He has been absent for some days. But he had, in answering the letter of the 10th May, in relation to the case of N. R. Burden, disclosed any knowledge of the instructions under which the British cruisers had acted, and stated that he had apprized his Government and the British Admiral in the West Indies of the facts, and the complaint made by General Cass. His letter was dated the 16th, and it is to be presumed that early in the next month he will be able to give General Cass some definite information as to the orders and the extent to which they are hereafter to be enforced.

The appropriation bills for ocean and inland mails are before the House. The inland bill asks an appropriation of \$14,035,520, being an excess over last year of \$2,862,273. This includes an estimated deficiency in the inland mails of \$3,500,000, nearly all of which is in the Southern and Western States. The ocean mail bill appropriates \$1,580,750. C. L. line \$346,500; New York, Charleston, New Orleans, Havana and Chagres, \$261,500; Panama, California and Oregon \$328,500; San Francisco and Olympia, \$122,500; Puget Sound, \$22,500; Owens, Bremen, Havre and New York, \$230,000; contingent service to Europe \$120,000; Charleston and Havana; \$50,000; Isthmus of Panama, \$100,000.

The Senate was a little startled the other day out of its dullness and dignity by an accident. A reporter carelessly threw his overcoat over the rear railing, which shuts off the reporters from the Senate below. It chanced that in the pocket of said overcoat there was a stout bowie knife, which was, by the impulse given to the coat thrown with some violence below, striking the blade into Senator Hammond's seat which was at that moment unoccupied. For a moment, the Senators were startled out of their propriety, and the sergeant-at-arms went up to the gallery, and arrested the proprietor of the coat, but when explanations were made, he was released.

A crowded meeting of the members of the American Tract Society opposed to the action of the Executive and Publishing Committees of the society, in the course adopted on the slavery question at the recent anniversary meeting has been held in New York, in the Church of the Puritans, Union square. Dr. Cheever presided, and the meeting was addressed by Rev. Dr. Tyng, Dr. Clarke, of Brooklyn, J. B. Jay, esq., and Dr. Thompson, of the Independent. The speakers stated their intention to remain in the society and use their exertions in carrying out their object—the circulation of the tract on the slavery question throughout the South. More mischief.

On Sunday morning week, an attempt was made to poison the family of Mr. S. Updegraff, at Hagerstown. A bucket of water was standing on a bench in the kitchen ready for use in the culinary department. A little son of Mr. U. procured a glass of water from this bucket and drank it, but had hardly reached the front door before becoming very sick. A physician was sent for and on examination it was found that arsenic had been placed in the bucket sufficient to have caused the death of the whole family. The child recovered.

Mr. Everett has returned from his Southern tour. Since the month of November, he has repeated his discourse on "The Character of Washington," for the benefit of the Mount Vernon Fund, twenty three times, with an aggregate net receipt of \$14,645; and his address on "Charity," fourteen times, for the benefit of various charitable institutions, with an aggregate net receipt of \$12,433. The net proceeds of his oratorical labors for the last six months, for the benefit of the Mount Vernon fund, and various charitable institutions, is \$27,078.

The Washington Star says:—"We hear that Mr. Clark Mills has temporarily suspended the work on the equestrian statue of Washington, ordered of him by the Government. The cause of this suspension is said to be the uncertainty about its eventual location. The statue is finally determined on until after it shall be definitely known precisely where and how it is to be placed."

A proposition is under consideration by the government of Brazil, to encourage emigration from Europe, by granting bounty and lands to emigrants. It has been widely discussed and favorably regarded. Considerable jealousy of the United States was expressed by the press, because it was so difficult to turn the great tide of emigration from North to South America.

Senator Charles Sumner has sailed for Europe in the Vanderbilt, in search of health. Though stronger than when he returned to this country in November last, he still finds himself unequal to the labors which press upon him while within the immediate sphere of Senatorial duty. He sailed for Havre direct, and from thence goes to Switzerland and Hungary.

James P. Allaire, esq., late proprietor of the Allaire Works, died last week. The deceased long occupied a high place in the ranks of American mechanics, and the excellent steam machinery turned out at his extensive foundry has carried his name to every part of the world, and made him famous wherever steam is known. He was 73 years of age.

A letter from Kansas gives an account of an encounter between Capt. Anderson with a squad of United States troops and a company of Montgomery's outlaws. In the fray a young soldier named Alvin Satterway was mortally wounded; he has since died.

The President has appointed Dr. C. H. Hunter, of Reading, Pa., agent for the purchase of anthracite coal for the use of the United States government. The office is one of the most valuable in the gift of the executive.

## Four Days Later from Europe.

## ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

New York, May 23.—The steamship City of Washington, from Liverpool on the 12th, arrived here this evening. The steamer Africa arrived out on the 9th.

The House of Commons have disagreed to the Lords' amendment to the Jew bill, and have admitted Baron R. Thesiger a member of the committee to confer with the Lords.

Sir Henry Bulwer is appointed Minister to Constantinople, and Hon. Edward Erskine, Secretary of Legation at Washington.

Resolutions had been proposed in the House of Commons by Mr. Cardwell, and by Lord Shaftesbury in the House of Lords, concerning the Government for the publication of their despatches to the Governor General of India in respect to Oude. Lord Ellenborough assumed responsibility for the publication, and has resigned. His resignation has been accepted. The resolutions of censure were to be considered the day after the sailing of the steamer. The London Times says that the resolutions will be supported by Lord Russell and the Peel party, as well as by Palmerston. Speculations were rife as to whether Ministers would resign or dissolve Parliament in the event of the resolutions being passed.

All the submarine cable is now on board the Niagara and Agamemnon. Both ships are to start on an experimental trip on the 25th. They were only awaiting the completion of the paying-out machinery.

The Paris conference is further postponed for a few days.

Senor Diez the Spanish Minister of the Interior, has resigned.

Calcutta dates are to the 9th of April.—The 4th Bengal light cavalry, 160 strong, have been brought to court-martial; sixty were sentenced to be hung and the remainder transported for life. Col. Saxon's forces had beaten the enemy, taking three guns. Rohilkand is in possession of the rebels, who are said to be 100,000 strong. A summer campaign in Rohilkand was deemed inevitable. All quiet in China.

Letters from Paris report that important modifications of the new law for the protection of the public safety were under consideration.

The Gazette de France in commenting on an article of the Constitution on the future organization of the Principality, questions the semi-official character assumed by said article, and exclaims:—"France will perhaps stand alone in defence of the principles of union and of the interests of the Christian population, but this isolation is of little consequence. Her voice will be appealed to for the future, and the nations of the world will once more become acquainted with the shameful policy of Austria and England."

In the smaller States of Germany a reaction against the overgrown military establishments of the German people becomes visible in the national representation. The Saxon representatives have just rejected the whole war estimates of that kingdom as being far too high.

The London Times says:—"The withdrawal of Senor Diez from the ministry of the Interior at Madrid, and the adjournment of the Cortes, must apparently be looked upon as the mere commencement of a government crisis of far greater importance."

THE MARKETS.—The Liverpool cotton market had partially advanced 1 per lb. Sales of the three days, 30,000 tons, including 8,000 on speculation and 3,000 for export.—Manchester market was reported firm.

Flour was dull and nominally unchanged. Wheat, red & white 7s 6d. Corn, French white 36s, yellow 34s 9d. (35s). Beef, choice, being quoted at 57s. Pork quiet, and all qualities slightly declined. Spirits of turpentine firm. Consols 97 1/4 for account. American securities slow of sale at unchanged rates.

## Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—There is no immediate prospect of the extension of the session beyond the 7th of June. This would be done only to the extent of several days, in the event of additional time being actually necessary for passing the general appropriation bills.

No further action will be taken concerning the rights of Dr. Bernheim to a seat as delegate, the committee on territories now being being able to ascertain officially if Utah is in a state of rebellion.

CHICAGO, May 21.—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (N. S.) met in this city yesterday. One hundred and sixty-six delegates were in attendance. The Rev. M. R. Thompson, of Buffalo, was elected moderator. A communication was received from the Presbytery of Harmony, Kentucky, announcing its withdrawal on account of the slavery question. After the transaction of the usual business the meeting adjourned.

PLYMOUTH, Mass., May 22.—The trial of Mrs. Abigail Gardner, for poisoning her husband, the late postmaster at Hingham, which has occupied the Supreme Court here during week, ended this morning by a verdict of murder in the second degree.

QUEBEC, May 22.—The steamer Anglo Saxon sailed for Liverpool at ten o'clock this afternoon, with 115 cabin and 134 steerage passengers.

NEW ORLEANS, May 21.—Frigates in this market on their way to Liverpool had declined, and 7-15-16 is now the current figure.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The joint committee on naval affairs agreed to a bill, which they will report on Monday, the 24th, in favor of increasing the pay of officers in the navy (including all grades) twenty dollars per month, and giving two extra rations to the officers in command.

CINCINNATI, May 22.—W. M. Connolly, of New York, convicted of harboring fugitive slaves, has been refused a new trial, and sentenced to twenty days' imprisonment in the county jail, and to pay a fine of ten dollars.

ST. LOUIS, May 23.—The remains of Gen. Persifer Smith arrived here this evening, and will be detained until instructions are received relative to their disposal.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 22.—Governor Willard is lying very low with a severe attack of pneumonia, or congestion of the lungs. His recovery is doubtful.

AUGUSTA, Ga., May 22.—The Augusta mill commenced grinding wheat yesterday, for the New York market.

SHOCKING MURDER BY BOYS IN ST. LOUIS.

Three boys, employed in a barber shop at St. Louis, have been arrested for the murder of Hugh Dowdle. One of the boys, named Theodore Debold, aged 17, has confessed that Dowdle went into the barber shop and was shaved. He had visited the shop on two other occasions, and had conversed with the barber, &c., so as to give an idea of the manner in which he was to be murdered. He was a man of considerable wealth. Up on the evening in question, (Sunday week), after shaving, he invited Nicholas and Antonio, the two other boys, to go out and take a drink; when they came back Antonio persuaded him to be shampooed, and Dowdle took a chair for that purpose; Antonio then drenched his hair in the fluid used for cleaning the head, and purposely let some drops fall in his eyes, thereby blinding him effectually. While this was going on Nicholas took a halter which had previously been prepared for the purpose, put the noose around the neck of the victim, and choked out of him in a few seconds. He then threw the body in the river, after robbing it of \$50, a silver watch, silk guard and gold shirt buttons.

## Hon. Mr. Boyce's Plan for a Financial Revolution in the Government.

We publish to-day an abstract of the comprehensive and interesting report of the Hon. Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, from the Select Committee of Congress appointed to inquire into the working of our existing navigation law, and tariff system with free trade and direct taxation, and submit the facts and arguments thereof to the attentive consideration of our state-men and politicians of all parties. We do so because there may be in this thing the beginning of a movement for a complete sectional revolution in the government, upon the extreme Southern platform of absolute free trade and direct taxation.

The programme of Mr. Boyce comprehends, with regard to the navigation law—1. That American vessels shall not be required to have a certain proportion of the crew Americans.

2. That American citizens may sail foreign vessels on a footing of perfect equality with American vessels.

3. That foreign vessels shall be admitted to the coasting trade.

These are pretty sweeping propositions against the peculiar privileges now enjoyed by Yankee shippers and Yankee shippers, and that they are not altogether intended as a joke may be inferred from the recent vote of the Senate, which the bill repealing the fishing law was passed.

Next after enumerating his objections to a protective tariff system, Mr. Boyce, in the interval to the adoption of the direct taxation policy, proposes that our tariff laws should comprehend—

1. A total abandonment of the protective policy in every particular.

2. The lowest rates of duties upon articles of necessity, such as cottons, woolsens, iron and sugar, and the highest upon luxuries, such as silks.

3. A restriction of the free list to such articles as do not pay for the trouble of collecting the duties, and to the raw materials of manufacture.

With regard to his ultimate policy of direct taxation, Mr. Boyce thinks that under this system the expenses of the government may be reduced one-half; and that a perfect system of equality would be established in the apportionment of the expenses among the several States, according to the ratio of their federal population respectively. In conclusion, the committee are agreed, and do not aim at immediate practical results, but merely for the present to give their views a ventilation through the windows of public opinion.—N. Y. Herald.

## Ex-President Monroe's Remains.

It will be recollected that the late Legislature passed an act appropriating two thousand dollars for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of removing, in a suitable manner, the remains of Ex-President James Monroe from the city of New York to the city of Richmond. Alluding to this fact, the Washington States says:

"In compliance with the act, we understand that the Governor and Secretary of State of Virginia, have carried in some correspondence, to discover if Mr. Monroe left any heirs, and who they are. Mr. Munford, Secretary of State, supposing, naturally enough, that Mr. James Monroe, of New York, was the representative of the late ex-President, addressed him a letter, asking his consent to the proposed removal.

"President Monroe left two daughters.—One named Judge Hay, of Virginia, who left a daughter, who died at an early age.—Maria, the other and younger daughter of Col. Monroe, married Samuel L. Gouverneur, subsequently postmaster of New York. She died but a few years since, after welcoming home her only son from the Mexican war, for gallant conduct, in which he had been brevetted and complimented. At the expiration of the war, this gentleman (after named Samuel L. Gouverneur) resigned his commission, and is now a subordinate clerk in the Treasury Department in this city.

"We doubt not that the authorities of Virginia once made aware of the necessary information, there will be little further delay in carrying out the thoughtful desire of the Legislature.

"In this connection we may also add, that the patriot was buried with distinguished military and other suitable honors, at the expense of the city of New York. And it might therefore be a proper courtesy for the authorities of Virginia to consult the 'city fathers' of New York, in regard to the necessary steps, the time, and mode of transferring from the Empire City, the ashes of the honored dead to the soil from which he sprang."

## Ministers Tying Up a Steamboat.

A correspondent of the Presbyterian of the West, writing an account of his voyage down the Mississippi, along with a hundred other ministers, to attend the General Assembly at New Orleans, thus tells what the preachers did on Sunday. The boat was the City of Memphis:

"When we found we could not reach Vicksburg by Saturday night, 12 o'clock, we postponed the General Assembly until the Sabbath. He agreed to it on condition that we would pay the expenses of the boat. They would be five hundred and sixty dollars, but he would take five hundred dollars. The money was raised and the bargain closed. We arrived at the little village of Providence, La., and the Providence which directs all things seemed indeed to have directed our course to that point to spend the Sabbath.

"On awakening in the morning, all quiet on board, and the Capt. on his way to the Central Mississippi had closed its business sessions there on Saturday evening, and that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was to be celebrated that Sabbath morning. We, therefore, gave up our intended service on the boat, and joined the congregation in the sacramental services of the Presbyterian Church. And precisely such a meeting, under such circumstances, had never before occurred upon the banks of the Mississippi, and may never occur again: one hundred ministers and elders, from thirteen States and Territories of the Union, stopping one of the floating palaces of this majestic river, on purpose to keep holy the Lord's day, meeting a Presbytery in session, and joining with them and with the Church in celebrating the Lord's Supper. It was a most refreshing season to our company, to the Presbytery, and the congregation."

## Opinion of Mr. Toombs.

Referring on yesterday to the expulsion of Hickey, the Post-keeper of the House of Representatives, for fraud and for malfeasance in his office, we asked—the question implying a negative answer—it was another Government on earth as corrupt as ours. Afterwards, in reading a debate in the Senate on an amendment to the Legislative Appropriation bill, we came across the following declaration of Mr. Toombs, in the course of an argument, and it gives us no pleasure to publish such things—but it is well that the people should know the abuses of Government, if they wish the proper corrective to be applied. Mr. Toombs said:

"We speak of the corruptions of Mexico, of Spain, of France, and of other Governments, with a great deal of truth, according to all accounts; but from my experience and observation, which have been somewhat extensive, I do not believe, to-day, there is as corrupt a Government under the heavens as that of the United States."

Mr. Hall, of New York, said:

Several other Senators. I agree to that, Mr. Toombs. And most of all, its corruption is in the legislative department."—Petersburg Intelligencer.

## The News from Utah.

We received last night several letters from our correspondent with the Utah expedition, giving various details of the news that has already reached us by telegraph.—Union.

PORT BRIDGER, Utah Territory, April 10, 1858.

I learn a few moments since that an express leaves this morning, and having permission to write you thereby, I avail myself of the occasion to send you a few items.

Mr. Gilbert, of the firm of Gilbert & Garfield, formerly merchants in Salt Lake city, reached here last evening from New York, via California and Salt Lake. He reports having met Governor Cumming and Colonel Leach in Echo Canon, forty-five miles this side of Salt Lake, on Wednesday evening, the 7th instant. There were about twenty Mormons, splendidly mounted, under the charge of Porter Rockwell, a notorious Danite, accompanying him. The Mormons were sending in an express to Brigham to inform him of the near approach of Governor Cumming. Mr. G. was informed that a room had been richly furnished for the occupation of the Governor, and that he was to have a public reception on Sunday.

On his way to Salt Lake from California, Mr. Gilbert met large numbers of wagons heavily loaded, on their way it is supposed, to the White Mountains, near the borders of New Mexico. Nearly one hundred loaded the city daily, and, so far as women and children are concerned, the city is nearly depopulated. It is supposed that a large portion of them are secreted on City Creek, above Salt Lake, in the mountains, where it is known they have large caches of provisions. In a conversation with Brigham he was told that if the army would give him time he would leave, otherwise he would "send them to hell cross-roads."

We are waiting from the Governor with much interest and anxiety. His early return to camp is not looked for by many, as he took with him large supplies—ars, for instance, 1,500 rations of coffee, 1,000 of sugar, and other articles in proportion. Be that as it may, I shall await the development of facts, and advise you at the earliest moment.

## More Aggressions.

New York, May 23.—The barque John Howe was boarded off Aquilla by a boat from the British war steamer Buzzard.—Examination of her papers was demanded. On arrival at Sagua la Grande she was again boarded by a boat from the same steamer, and another demand was made to show her papers.

The barque John Howe reports an attempt made in the harbor of Sagua la Grande to compel Capt. Bartlett, of the ship Clarendon, bound for New York with a cargo of sugar, to show his papers and hoist his ensign, by an officer of the British steamer Buzzard. Captain Bartlett refused. The steamer fired several blank cartridges to intimidate him, and then the commander of the steamer accompanied by a hundred men proceeded to the barque. Capt. Bartlett refused to let any body on board except the officer, who, after an exciting scene, left without accomplishing his purpose. During the affair Bartlett was struck, but the officer denied any intention of so doing.

The following is from Dr. John G. Bunting, who has been experimenting with Alexis St. Martin, the man with a hole in his stomach, made by a bullet, through which he can see all the processes of digestion, and the different articles of food must pass in the act of digestion:

"Hot bread never digests. Bear this in mind, reader, if you are accustomed to eat the light and tempting biscuit at tea, or the warm loaf which looks so appetizing upon your dinner table. Hot bread never digests at all; after a long season of tumbling and working about in the stomach, it will begin to ferment, and it will eventually be passed out of the stomach, as an unrecognizable tenant of that delicate organ, but never digested; never becomes assimilated to or absorbed by the organs that appropriate nutrition to the body. It is a first rate dyspepsia producer. The above is truth, as it has been repeatedly proved from actual observation through the side of Alexis St. Martin."

## A Blue Bird in a Bottle.

The West H.bury (Mass.) Gazette gives the following item:

"One of our neighbors happening to have a large bottle, bethought himself of placing it in the branches of a tree near his house, for the birds to build in. After a short time the members of his family perceived a pair of blue birds continually, day after day, flying about and coming up to the mouth of the bottle, as if endeavoring to get in. This had lasted about a week the gentleman one day took a hammer up to the tree to knock off the neck of the bottle, so that the birds might enter, when upon so doing a blue bird flew out. The poor prisoner had undoubtedly succeeded in making his way in, but from the slippery ascent to the neck had been unable to escape, and had probably been supported by food brought there by his two outside brethren."

## The Letter.

Mr. Foley, Member of Congress, of Indiana, "wrote up" that he wrote a funny letter addressed Lindley Murray and N. A. Webster. He says the theory and practice of those gentlemen in regard to spelling, and the construction of language, have been allowed to go unretorted long enough. He thinks it is time somebody was "let loose again to set the public right." He says it may be all very well to laugh at his letter, but "it won't do good," for he declares, that if he can be sure of all the votes of those of his constituents and so "wrote up" that letter, better than he can be, he will be elected by an overwhelming majority. We think he is rather "let 'em" there. Mr. Foley wants a distinctly understood that he is not ashamed to face his constituents on that letter.—N. Y. Post.

## To Prevent Potato Rot.

Some Belgian boys, a few years since, for amusement, inserted some peas into potatoes and planted them. The result was an unusual yield of peas and a crop of tubers perfectly sound, though in a field where the potatoes were badly effected. Acting on the hint, Mr. Jackson, of Leeds, England, developed the theory that the potato, being deficient in nitrogen, would receive an equivalent of that article from the peas during the time of growing, and so "wrote up" that letter, better than he can be, he will be elected by an overwhelming majority. We think he is rather "let 'em" there. Mr. Foley wants a distinctly understood that he is not ashamed to face his constituents on that letter.—N. Y. Post.

## Literature Among the Celestials.

The Emperor of China does not appreciate costly presents from "outside barbarians." The magnificent bound copies of Audubon's Birds of America, and Wiles' Exploring Expedition, which our government sent him, have been found recently in the hands of Chinese book-sellers, who were offering them for sale at a mere trifle.

HAVANA SEGARS AND LYNCHBURG CHEWING TOBACCO—A large and very superior lot, just received, and for sale by J. WILLIAM BOWLING, cor. of Fairfax and Princeton.

WINE—Champaigne, Sherry, Port, of excellent quality, for sale by WASHINGTON & CO.

## General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

Ninth Day.—The appeal of the Rev. Mr. Findley, from the decision of the Synod of New Jersey, occupied most of the day's session, without being concluded.

The committee of conference with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, was increased by the addition of the names of Chancellor John Johnson, R. V. Messrs. Thos. Hoyt, Thos. L. McBride, D. D. and J. H. Thorowell, D. D. Said committee to report to the next General Assembly.

Rev. Mr. Brown, the delegate from the Associate Synod, made an eloquent response.

A resolution was adopted recommending to all and exhorting to ministers and churches in the South, to circulate for examination and use the psalm and hymn books of the church, with selection from the book of psalms in metre, according to the version used in the church of Scotland.

Dr. L. J. Halsey, chairman of the committee on the state of religion, then read the narrative of religion. It states that 117 presbyteries have sent up narratives of the state of religion in their churches, and the committee are able to send back the most cheering accounts to the churches. It has been a year of great awakening among the people, of unusual concord and peace among the churches, and of unusual liberality to all the great benevolent operations of the day.

Dr. Junkin made a report on systematic benevolence, which recorded a large increase in the contributions of the presbyteries.

## Who is Col. Kane?

In answer to this question the St. Louis Republican says:

Some curiosity is expressed to know who Col. Kane, the gentleman who seems to have taken as a mediator between the Mormons of Utah and Gov. Cumming. In one quarter we have seen it stated that he is a Mormon. But this is wrong; he never was a Mormon. He is a young man—the son of the late Judge Kane, of Philadelphia, and brother of Dr. Kane, the Arctic explorer. He held the office of Clerk of the District Court until the death of his father, an event which has taken place since Col. Kane left for Utah. A few years since Col. Kane was in this section of the country, where he had the stock of his time in the Mormon settlements of Iowa. He became a favorite with them, and the towns of Kanerville, marked out and inhabited by them, was named after him. The President, having a knowledge, probably, of these facts, deputed him to go to Utah, to let the people know what they must expect if they persisted in their rebellious course. His presence seems to have checked them in their mad career, and it is probable that the well disposed and law-abiding portion of them will submit to the authority, now sent there to carry out the laws of the Nation, and those who have been indicted for treason, will find it convenient to search out a new home before the new Government is fairly organized.

## ORANGE AND ALEXANDRIA RAIL ROAD.

THE TRAIN leaves Alexandria daily at 7 1/2 o'clock, A. M., for Gordonsville, connecting with the trains on the Virginia Central Railroad, for Richmond and the West, and with the trains on the Manassas Gap Railroad, for Woodstock and intermediate points.